

REMARKS

Support for the amendments to the specification and to the claims can be found in the application (including the specification, figures, claims) as originally filed, in the Examples, and in the original and amended claims.

Claims 8, 15, 19, 20, and 32 have been amended, and new claims 163-171 have been added. Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 12, 13, 15, 18-28, 31-113, and 138-171 are pending in the application.

Support for the amendments to claims 8, 15, 19, 20, and 32 and for new claims 163-171 may be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. The amendments to claims 8, 15, 19, 20, and 32 were made primarily to correct typographical and similar technical errors. Additional support for new claims 163-171 can be found, e.g., in cancelled claims 3, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17, 29, 30, and 40 as originally filed. No new matter has been added by virtue of these amendments.

CONCLUSION

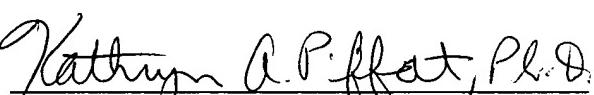
It is believed that all outstanding rejections have been addressed by this submission and that all the claims are in condition for allowance. If discussion of any amendment or remark made herein would advance this important case to allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned as soon as convenient.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the present application is respectfully considered in condition for allowance. An early reconsideration and notice of allowance are earnestly solicited.

Applicants believe that no additional extension of time is required. If, however, a petition for an extension of time is required, then the Examiner is requested to treat this as a conditional petition for an extension of time. Although it is not believed that any fee is required, in addition to the fee submitted herewith, to consider this submission, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge our deposit account no. 04-1105 should any fee be deemed necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

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